

Abstract

An isolated myeloid cell, progenitors and progeny thereof, and populations of such cells are described. The cells have the phenotype of CD11b⁺, CD11c^{-/low}, MHC Class II⁺, and mediate thymus-dependent immune responses, including IL-4 associated responses, and priming of B cells for MHC Class II signaling, expansion and proliferation. Also described are methods of making the cells and using the cells in therapeutic vaccines. Also described are methods of using the cells to identify agents, such as adjuvants, that are effective inducers of thymus-dependent immune responses, and particularly for priming of B cells.